

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GEORGE 02449 061159Z

47

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EB-07

/064 W

----- 012398

R 061120Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3804

INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GEORGETOWN 2449

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: SOPN, GY, US

SUBJECT: GOG MEDIA COVERAGE OF CUBANA INQUIRY

1. AFTER A WELCOME HIATUS THE CUBANA AIRLINE CRASH HAS ONCE AGAIN COME INTO THE NEWS. FOR THE PAST SEVERAL DAYS BOTH THE AFTERNOON DAILY "CITIZEN" AND MORNING DAILY "CHRONICLE" HAVE BEEN GIVING EXTENSIVE COVERAGE TO INFORMATION EMANATING FROM THE INQUIRY IN BRIDGETOWN.

2. BOTH PAPERS HAVE BEEN PUBLISHING CANA DISPATCHES WITH HEADLINES SUCH AS QUOTE CUBA AGAIN SAYS CIA WAS MASTERMIND BEHIND SABOTAGE AND CRASH ACCUSED CLAIMED TO BE CIA OPERATIVES UNQUOTE. STORY ON TESTIMONY OF SENIOR POLICE SUPERINTENDENT DURANT APPEARED TO FOLLOW WHAT WAS REPORTED IN BRIDGETOWN 2363 INCLUDING INFORMATION THAT UNDER CROSS-EXAMINATION DURANT ADMITTED THERE WAS NO EVIDENCE THAT A "MR. MCLEOD" WAS AT THE EMBASSY. STORY ABOUT FINAL DAY OF INQUIRY WAS EVEN MORE OBJECTIVE AND REPORTED AT GREAT LENGTH REBUTTAL OF WILLIS TO CUBAN CHARGES THAT SABOTAGE WAS PLANNED AND CARRIED

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OUT BY CIA.

3. COMMENT: THERE HAS BEEN NO OFFICIAL OR UNOFFICIAL
GOG REACTION TO INFORMATION DISCLOSED AT END OF
INQUIRY. EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT SINCE LOZANO
STATEMENT TO CARACAS PRESS THAT NEITHER HE NOR
LUGO WERE MEMBERS OF CIA HAS ALREADY BEEN
REPORTED HERE THESE NEW REVELATIONS WILL NOT BE
GIVEN TOO MUCH CREDENCE. WE CAN ONLY SURMISE THAT
THOSE HERE WHO ALREADY THINK THE WORST OF USG
WILL CONTINUE TO DO SO WHILE OTHERS WILL RECOGNIZE
INCONSISTENCIES IN LOZANO'S AND LUGO'S STATEMENTS
AND CONCLUDE THERE IS LITTLE EVIDENCE TO SUPPORT
CUBAN ACCUSATIONS OF OUR INVOLVEMENT.
MCCOY

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Message Attributes

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